UNITED
NATIONS

A S

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/51/264
S/1996/620
2 August 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-first session
Item 43 of the provisional agenda*
THE SITUATION IN BURUNDI

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-first year

Letter dated 2 August 1996 from the Permanent Representative of the United Republic of Tanzania to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose herewith the text of a letter dated 1 August 1996 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the United Republic of Tanzania addressed to you, transmitting the full text of the Joint Communiqué of the Second Arusha Regional Summit on Burundi, held on 31 July 1996 in the northern town of Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania. The communiqué was unanimously adopted by all the participants present.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 43 of the provisional agenda, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Daudi N. MWAKAWAGO
Permanent Representative

* A/51/150.

96-19639 (E) 050896 060896

/...

ANNEX

Letter dated 1 August 1996 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the United Republic of Tanzania addressed to the Secretary-General

As you are aware, at the invitation of H.E. President Benjamin W. Mkapa, a Summit Meeting was convened in Arusha yesterday, 31 July 1996, to consider the prevailing situation in Burundi in the aftermath of a military take-over of the Government there.

In this respect, I have the honour to transmit to Your Excellency the Joint Communiqué issued by the leaders of the region following that Summit Meeting.

Allow me to draw your particular attention to paragraph 11 on the decision to impose sanctions against the regime in Bujumbura and paragraph 14 on the preparedness of the countries of the region to cooperate with the United Nations and make an appropriate contribution towards the adoption of measures aimed at averting a catastrophe in the event of further deterioration of the situation in Burundi. The support of the United Nations and the international community is requested.

I request you to circulate the communiqué as a document of both the General Assembly and the Security Council, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the rules of procedure.

(Signed) Jakaya M. KIKWETE, MP
Minister for Foreign Affairs
and International Cooperation

APPENDIX

Joint Communiqué of the Second Arusha Regional Summit on Burundi, held on 31 July 1996

1. At the invitation of President Benjamin William Mkapa of the United Republic of Tanzania, Presidents Daniel arap Moi of Kenya, Yoweri Kaguta Museveni of Uganda, Pasteur Bizimingu of Rwanda, Prime Minister Meles Zenawi of Ethiopia and Prime Minister Kengo wa Dondo of Zaire met and held talks on 31 July 1996 in Arusha, on the current situation in Burundi.

2. Also participating in the Regional Summit were the Minister of External Relations of Cameroon, Ferdinand Leopold Oyano, representing the current Chairman of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), the Secretary-General of OAU, Salim Ahmed Salim, and the Facilitator of the Burundi peace talks, Mwalimu Julius K. Nyerere.

3. The Regional Summit affirms that the immediate problem of the current political situation in Burundi is basically that of illegality, which is the culmination of the deliberate process which started in October 1993. The Summit feels that this will deepen the conflict in Burundi and worsen the security and stability of the whole subregion.

4. The Regional Summit strongly condemns the coup in Burundi and reiterates the imperative necessity to end the illegality and restore constitutional order.

5. The Regional Summit recalls the decision of the OAU Assembly of the Heads of State and Government which met in Yaoundé in July 1996 and which fully endorses the Mwanza peace process and the Arusha initiative.

6. It also recalls the statement issued by President Paul Biya, the Chairman of OAU, the decision of the Central Organ of the OAU Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution of Conflicts, dated 25 July 1996, and the statement of the President of the United Nations Security Council dated 24 July 1996 (S/PRST/1996/31).

7. The Regional Summit calls on the Bujumbura regime to immediately undertake specific measures aimed at returning to constitutional order, including:

(a) Immediate restoration of the National Assembly, which is a democratic institution of legality that has derived its mandate from the people of Burundi;

(b) Immediate unbanning of political parties in the country.

8. The Regional Summit calls on the regime to undertake immediate and unconditional negotiations with all the parties to the conflict. It stresses that these negotiations should include parties and armed factions inside and outside the country.

9. The Regional Summit underlines that the framework of these negotiations should be the Mwanza peace process, reinforced by the Arusha peace initiative,

under the auspices of Mwalimu Nyerere, which seeks to guarantee security and democracy for all the people of Burundi.

10. The Regional Summit firmly reiterates its call for an immediate end to killings and massacres. In this regard, the Regional Summit urges all involved parties to respect this call.

11. The Regional Summit decided to exert maximum pressure on the regime in Bujumbura, including the imposition of economic sanctions in order to bring about conditions which are conducive to a return to normalcy in Burundi. In this regard, the Summit strongly appeals to the international community to support the efforts and measures taken by the countries of the region.

12. The Regional Summit calls upon all the parties to scrupulously abide by the Mwanza peace process and to refrain from taking any action which would undermine the efforts towards peace, security and stability.

13. The Regional Summit takes note with appreciation of the task undertaken by the Technical Committee which has been specifically mandated to look into modalities of providing security assistance as envisaged by the Regional Summit of 25 June 1996.

14. In this regard, the Regional Summit reaffirms its commitment to implement the Arusha Summit conclusions and calls on the regime in Bujumbura to facilitate their implementation. The Summit also calls upon all the parties in conflict to abide by the Arusha initiative. At the same time, it declares its preparedness to cooperate fully with the United Nations and to make its contribution as appropriate towards the adoption of measures aimed at avoiding a catastrophe in the country in the event of the further deterioration of the situation. In this context, the Regional Summit strongly stresses the importance of closer cooperation and better coordination between the United Nations and OAU, as well as with the countries of the region.

15. The Regional Summit expressed its appreciation to President Benjamin William Mkapa of the United Republic of Tanzania for playing host to the Second Regional Summit in Arusha, and to the Tanzanian Government for the hospitality accorded to them and their delegations.

16. DONE at Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania, on 31 July 1996.